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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/345,617 06/30/99 KARA

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EXAMINER

COSIMANO, E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2161

DATE MAILED:

03/29/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/345,617

Applicant(s)

KARA, SALIM G.

Examiner

Edward R. Cosimano

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-82 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) none is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 & 49-60 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 24, 33-37, 45-48 & 61-82 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 25-32 & 38-44 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 1999 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

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1. Applicant should note the changes to patent practice and procedure effective December 01, 1997 as published in the Federal Register, Vol 62, No. 197, Friday October 10, 1997.

2. The drawings are objected to because:

A) the following errors have been noted in the drawings:

(1) the drawings lack figure 8 as disclosed at page 14, line 3.

Correction is required.

2.1 Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in response to this Office action (37 CFR § 1.121(a)(3)(ii)). However, correction of the noted defect can be deferred until the application is allowed by the examiner.

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

A) applicant must update:

(1) the continuing data on page 1,

with the current status of each of the referenced applications, e.g., --now abandoned--, or --now patent #?--, or --which is abandoned and now serial number #?--, etc.

B) the specification lacks an explicit reference to the nature of:

(1) reference legend(s):

(a) 101 of figs. 1 & 2 at page 8;

(b) 50 & 53 of fig. 5 at pages 11-12;

(c) 608 of fig. 6 at pages 12-13;

(d) 701 of fig. 7B at page 13; and

(e) 702 of fig. 7C at pages 13-14; and

(2) how the program proceeds after box(es):

(a) 605 of fig. 6 if the inquiry is "NO" at pages 12-13; and

(b) 609 & 610 of fig. 6 if the inquiry is either "YES" or "NO" at pages 12-13;

as required by 37 CFR § 1.84(p(5)) and 37 CFR § 1.121(a)(5). It is noted that merely mentioning a number with out mentioning the device or operation of the step relies on the drawing to provide support for the disclosure and not to aid in the understanding of the invention, as is the purpose of the drawings (37 CFR § 1.81(a,b)).

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B) the following errors have been noted in the specification:

(1) as can be seen in fig. 1 and from the context of page 8, lines 9-10, "In the embodiment, ... 103, 104.", at page 8, line 10, "102, 103, 104." should be -101, 102, 103 and 104.--.

(2) as can be seen from fig. 2 and from the context of page 8, lines 14-16, "In such ... would be printed.", at page 8, line 16, "16" should be -12--.

(3) as can be seen in figs. 8A-8D and from the context of page 14, lines 3-7, "Turning to FIGURE 8 ... shown in FIGURES 8A and 8B.", at:

(a) page 14, line 3, "FIGURE 8" should be -FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--.

(a) page 14, line 7, "FIGURES 8A and 8B" should be -FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--.

(4) the disclosure at page 14 lacks both a description and a reference to figs. 8C and 8D, as required by 37 CFR § 1.74 and 37 CFR § 1.84(p(5)) and 37 CFR § 1.121(a)(5).

Appropriate correction is required.

4. The specification and drawings have not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification or drawings. Applicant should note the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.74, § 1.75, § 1.84(o,p(5)) & § 1.121(a)(1)-1.121(a)(6).

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5.1 Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48 & 61-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by either Tanaka et al (4,108,364) or the Business Editors document or the Automatic I.D. article or Chapman (5,432,506) or Berson (5,598,477) or Royer (WO 97/14482).

5.2 Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48 & 61-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Lee et al (6,170,744).

5.3 Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48 & 61-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Fouracres et al (EP 0699327).

5.4 In regard to claims 24, 33-37, 45-48 & 61-82, either Tanaka et al ('364) or the Business Editors document or the Automatic I.D. article or Chapman ('506) or Berson ('477) or Royer ('482) or Lee et al ('744) or Fouracres et al ('327) disclose a system for the user to generate valid tickets. In these systems once the user has accessed the system and has decided to purchase an item, e.g. a ticket, the user must enter required information into the system. After the required information has been entered into the systems of either Tanaka et al ('364) or the Business Editors document or the Automatic I.D. article or Chapman ('506) or Berson ('477) or Royer ('482) or Lee et al ('744) or Fouracres et al ('327) these systems use the entered information and information about the item to generate encrypted validation information. Next, after a media, e.g. ticket stock, has been placed in the user's printer, the system prints the purchased item along with the machine readable encrypted validation information and human readable information on the media. When the user wishes to use the purchased and printed item, the item may be validated at the point of use by accessing the

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systems of either Tanaka et al ('364) or the Business Editors document or the Automatic I.D. article or Chapman ('506) or Berson ('477) or Royer ('482) or Lee et al ('744) or Fouracres et al ('327) and entering information from the purchased item.

6. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

A) in regard to claims 25 & 38, the prior art does not teach or suggest printing the purchased item with multiple sections that include a security imprint in each section. Claims 26-32 & 39-44 are objected to for the same reason.

B) in regard to claims 1, 14, 49 & 56, the prior art does not teach or suggest the seller of the purchased item communicating to the purchaser unique data that includes encrypted validation information and the decryption key used for decrypting the encrypted validation information where the decryption key is associated with the unique data on the media. Claims 2-13, 15-23, 50-55 & 57-60 are allowable for the same reason.

7. The examiner has cited prior art of interest, for example:

A) IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin and the Business Wire article, which disclose the generation of tickets that include encoded validation information.

B) Eckert (4,649,266) which discloses the validation of a postage indicia using information contained within the indicia.

C) Kara (WO 00/73954) which discloses the instant system by publication of the related application PCT/US00/14347.

8. Claims 4-7, 9 & 68-73 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and section 707.07(a) of the M.P.E.P.

9. The shortened statutory period of response is set to expire 3 (three) months from the mailing date of this Office action.

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10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward Cosimano whose telephone number is (703) 305-9783. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30am to 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell, can be reached on (703)-305-9768. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

10.1 The fax phone number for UNOFFICIAL FAXES or for OFFICIAL FAXES for this group is either (703) 308-9051 or (703) 308-9052.

03/21/01


Edward R. Cosimano
Primary Examiner A.U. 2161